

# Tewksbury Memorial High School



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Dear Tewksbury Memorial High School Students and Parents/Guardians:

July 24, 2024

I hope that everyone has been enjoying the time off from school these past few hot weeks. Please take a few moments to thoroughly review the contents of this letter and know that the information contained is subject to change. If necessary, updates will be provided in a timely manner.

## **New Student Orientation Program**

The Tewksbury Memorial High School Student Council and student leaders will host an Orientation Program on campus for 9th Grade students in the Class of 2028 and students new to TMHS. The Orientation Program will take place on August 26, 2024 beginning at 10:00 AM. Students will attend small group tours of the high school, learn more about programs and offerings, pick up their Chromebook, and get to ask questions to make for a smooth transition to the new school year. The Orientation Program will culminate with lunch and an Activities Fair, where students will have an opportunity to meet with representatives of the clubs and activities offered at TMHS. If this day does not work for you and your family, please arrange a visit to the school during the week of August 19-23, 2024 at 10:00 AM by contacting Mrs. Kelly Mercier at [kmercier@tewksbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:kmercier@tewksbury.k12.ma.us) to confirm.

## **1:1 Chromebook Learning Program**

Each year, all incoming freshmen and new students at Tewksbury Memorial High School will be issued a Chromebook to be used both at home and at school during their time as students at TMHS. Learning with technology is a critical tool to be college and career ready. [Insurance](#) is optional but highly recommended and affordable. Tewksbury Public Schools does **not** support students' personal devices.

Chromebooks may be obtained at the end of the Orientation Program (see above). **Any student who is unable to attend Orientation will be able to obtain a Chromebook on the first day of school on Wednesday, August 28, 2024.**

## **News from the Guidance Department:**

It is important for both students and parents/guardians to stay up-to-date on all pertinent information related to their class (year of graduation). TMHS invites both students and parents/guardians to several events during the course of the year with the goal of providing our school community with current, class-specific information. Please visit the Guidance Department webpage <https://www.tewksbury.k12.ma.us/high/guidance-department/> for information for:

- **Freshmen Students (Class of 2028) and their Parents/Guardians**

There will be a Freshman Parent Breakfast on Friday, October 4, 2024 from 7:40 - 9:00 AM at TMHS to welcome you and provide answers from our guidance staff and administration to some of the most commonly asked questions. The Freshman Student assembly will be held on Tuesday, October 1, 2024. During this session our counselors will introduce themselves to students, explain the importance of the high school transcript, and describe some of the services provided in the Guidance Office. Additionally, counselors will be meeting with small groups of freshmen beginning in September.

- **PSAT information for Juniors and Sophomores - Classes of 2026 and 2027**

All sophomore and junior students interested in taking the PSAT exam in October of 2024 must register and pay \$18 for the exam on their [Community Pass](#) accounts. The registration period will be July 25 through September 3, 2024.

- **Senior Students (Class of 2025) and Parents/Guardians**

On Thursday, August 22, 2024 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m, the Guidance Department will host its annual Common Application Workshop in LGI-1 for seniors planning to apply to college beginning in the fall. Students should bring their laptop computer. Students who cannot attend this workshop will be able to attend this workshop on Wednesday, September 25 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM during the TMHS Open House.

There will be a Senior Parent Breakfast on Friday, September 27 from 7:40 a.m. - 9:00 AM in LGI-1 to share important information with families about the college application process. Additionally, senior students will attend a Senior Presentation on Tuesday, September 24 in the auditorium to review the information that was shared during their Junior meetings last spring. Senior parents and students should join the Class of 2025 Future Planning Google Classroom, which is updated weekly throughout the school year with important information related to postgraduate planning for students. If you have not joined this classroom or need to know how to do so, please email your school counselor for the join code.

**Student Advisory Block:**

Tewksbury Memorial High School will continue to offer a student Advisory Block. Students are randomly assigned to an advisory teacher for the duration of their time at TMHS. The advisory groups will meet throughout the school year with the goal of fostering a positive school culture and personalizing all students' learning experiences, allowing students time to figure out who they are, where they are headed, and how to get there. Through the Advisory Block experience, students will have an additional teacher who can help them navigate high school so that they leave further prepared with postsecondary options.

**The Website for Tewksbury Memorial High School:**

The website for TMHS will continue to be updated regularly with information about upcoming events, deadlines, information and more. Please click the links to access the [district's school calendar](#) and the [TMHS Daily Calendar](#). Be sure to use the Filter Calendar button and check the High School Day Calendar tab.

**Student IDs/School Pictures/Senior Portraits:**

Students will be photographed at school on **Thursday, September 5, 2024** during the school day for student IDs and for the option of purchasing school pictures. Picture retakes will be on Friday, November 1, 2024. Additionally, seniors should schedule appointments for their senior portraits with O'Connor Studios so that they can have their picture in the yearbook. This should be completed by **Friday, November 1, 2024**. O'Connor Studios can be reached at (978) 640-6250 or at <http://www.oconnorstudio.com/>.

**Student Parking Permits**

Student parking passes will be distributed at the high school on the following dates:

- **Senior Students:** Those who have properly registered can obtain their parking permits between 12:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 22, 2024.
- **Junior Students:** Those who have properly registered can obtain their parking permits between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on Friday, August 23, 2024.

[Community Pass](#) will be open starting August 16th for students to register for a parking permit and to pay the requisite fee of \$150.00. Additionally, students must use this [Google Form](#) using the student's Tewksbury Public Schools email address to upload their driver's license and automobile registration.

Please note that, unlike in previous years, there will be no reserved parking spaces for students. **All students will park in designated student parking sections on a first-come, first-served basis.** This change aims to improve our attendance and tardy rates by encouraging prompt arrival to school.

Additionally please be reminded that only Juniors and Seniors with at least 60 credits and in good standing academically, behaviorally and with regard to attendance will be eligible to obtain a parking pass and park on campus, as outlined in the Student Parking Privileges section of the TMHS student handbook. Any parking questions should be directed to Assistant Principal Sean O'Leary at [soleary@tewksbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:soleary@tewksbury.k12.ma.us).

### School Supplies

There is no prescribed list of school supplies for high school students. It is recommended that students have "basic" school supplies (pen, notebook, etc.) and their school issued Chromebook the first few days of the new school year until they meet their teachers and hear from them what may be needed for each class. Both August 28 & 29 will be **X Days**, meaning students will attend all of 7 of their classes (Blocks A-G) on those days for 45 minutes each.

### Clubs and Activities

Students are encouraged to participate in the [extracurricular activities](#) offered by TMHS. All students participating in a club or activity must register at Community Pass. A student must pay a user fee of \$50 per club with a student cap of \$100 per year. You may pay the user fee online through Community Pass at <https://register.communitypass.net> with a credit card or by using your checking account. Students will not be allowed to participate in a club until the fee has been paid. All Tewksbury families have an account with Community Pass.

### Athletics

Registration and payment of the User Fee for Athletics for the fall athletics season must be done through Community Pass. The family cap per year for athletics is \$600. [SportsWare](#) (SWOL) is open now to upload current physicals and any medical information. Parents and students are reminded that sports physicals expire thirteen months from the date of the physical examination. Regulations issued by the Department of Public Health require that students have an up-to-date physical examination for their continued participation in athletics. This regulation mandates that upon the expiration of a student's physical examination, which is valid for thirteen months, the student is immediately not eligible for participation in interscholastic athletics until such time that a valid physical examination report is filed with the office of the Athletic Director. If your child's physical examination is due to expire during the athletic season or school year, make sure you schedule well in advance another appointment with your child's physician for a new physical examination so that your child remains eligible to participate in high school athletics. Questions should be directed to Mr. Drouin, Athletic Director, at [rdrouin@tewksbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:rdrouin@tewksbury.k12.ma.us).

### Summer Reading

Students are reminded to be working on fulfilling their [2024 TMHS Summer Reading](#) requirements.

### Advanced Placement Course Summer Assignments

Students enrolled in Advanced Placement classes for 2024-25 are reminded to complete the "summer assignments" for their respective classes. Individual questions may be directed to the teacher of the Advanced Placement course(s) in which the student is enrolled.

### Student Class Schedules:

It is anticipated that students' class schedules will be available on or around August 19, 2024 and may be viewed through the Aspen portal: <https://ma-tewksbury.myfollett.com/aspen/logon.do>. Please review the student schedule to ensure correct placement. Students with incomplete schedules should contact Ms. Fronduto, Administrative Assistant in the Guidance Office, via email at [cfronduto@tewksbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:cfronduto@tewksbury.k12.ma.us) or call (978) 640-7838 ext. 2048 to schedule an appointment.

The first day of school for all students is Wednesday, August 28, 2024. The start time of the school day is 7:30 a.m. Here again is the link to the [Daily Schedule of classes at TMHS](#). You may expect to receive additional communications from the high school administration in the coming weeks as the new school year approaches. Please continue to check the TMHS website for information about upcoming events, deadlines, and information. I am looking forward to the 2024-25 school year and wish you an enjoyable remainder of the summer.

Warm regards,

**ANDREW LONG**

Principal, TMHS